

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons:

1. Amendments to Specification and Claims

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 3, and claim 3 has been canceled.

Claim 4 has been re-written in independent form to include the limitations of claim 1, from which it originally depended.

New claim 13 is identical to original claim 5, but depends from independent claim 4 rather than claim 1.

New claim 14 is identical to previously presented claims 11 and 12, but depends from claim 4 rather than claims 1, 7, or 8.

2. Rejections of Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 10 Under 35 USC §§102(e) or 103(a)

These rejections have been rendered moot by the amendment of claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 3, and by re-writing claim 4 in independent form to include the limitation of claim 4.

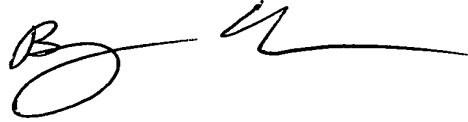
All of the claims is now directed to subject matter indicated as allowable on page 3 of the Official Action.

Having thus overcome each of the rejections made in the Official Action, withdrawal of the rejections and expedited passage of the application to issue is requested.

Serial Number 10/730,075

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Urcia', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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